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Bangalore Mirror

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What started out as a dream come true quickly turned into a nightmare the city can't forget in a hurry. B'luru seeks answers as its worst stampede claims 11 lives near M Chinnaswamy Stadium

TEARS IN HEAVEN

"I have ordered a magisterial inquiry and given 15 days' time. People even broke the gates of the stadium. There was a stampede. No one expected such a huge crowd. The stadium has a capacity of only 35,000 people, but 2-3 lakh people came —CM Siddaramaiah

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Bengaluru erupted in uncontainable joy on Tuesday night as Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) clinched the coveted IPL trophy for the first time in 18 years. Firecrackers lit up the city skyline, drums beat through the night, and ecstatic supporters danced in the streets—marking one of the most euphoric sporting celebrations Bengaluru has ever witnessed.

But what began as a moment of triumph soon spiraled into tragedy. More than two lakh fans thronged the M Chinnaswamy Stadium for the felicitation ceremony to honour the newly crowned champions. Chaos was unleashed as the crowds charged on, , triggering a sudden stampede, and utter panic. In the horrific melee that ensued, 11 lives were lost and at least 47 others were injured—some critically.

This was the first time that Chinnaswamy Stadium witnessed such a devastating stampede—turning scenes of joy into an unimaginable tragedy.

KAUSHIK J N

Scenes from a tragedy: Sandals strewn all around the site of the stampede; people rush to take the injured to the hospital

Poor planning

CM Siddaramaiah admitted that the event saw a turnout far exceeding expectations. "The stadium's capacity is 35,000, but over two lakh people turned up," he said. "The felicitation was planned in the morning after the match ended late on Tuesday night, and being a working day, we did not expect such massive turnout."

He noted that a similar crowd had gathered in front of the Vidhana Soudha earlier in the day, where no untoward incident occurred. However, miscommunication, lack of entry protocols, and small stadium gates led to chaos at Chinnaswamy. The CM ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident and sought a report within 15 days. Siddaramaiah confirmed that among the injured, 33 are currently being treated at Bowring and Lady

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

WHY DID THIS TRAGEDY STRIKE?

We list out all the reasons that led to the deaths of fans who just wanted to celebrate their team's win

1. Overcrowding

While M Chinnaswamy Stadium has a seating capacity of about 35,000 to 40,000, over 2 lakh people reportedly gathered, leading to uncontrollable crowd pressure.

2. Free entry

The decision to allow free entry for the felicitation event attracted an overwhelming number of fans without any ticketing or registration mechanism to regulate attendance.

3. Lack of planning

The felicitation event was planned on short notice, with no clear communication on entry protocols or expected crowd turnout. Many were unaware of how to access the venue.

4. Absence of basic crowd control measures

There were no proper queue systems, crowd barriers, or designated zones, and the few barricades set up were either jumped over or broken during the rush.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Sip n savour

A 120-minute tea and calligraphy workshop is bringing together two slow-living rituals — mindful tea appreciation and creative modern calligraphy — with the aim of helping guests pause, create, and connect through sensory rituals. **Where: Freedom Tree Design Studio, Indiranagar; When: June 8, 3 pm**

02 Euphoric beats

Seven-time Grammy winner Randy Brecker and two-time Grammy winner Peter Erskine will be performing in Bengaluru for the first time. Their band includes acclaimed musicians Yaacov Mayman, Otmaru Ruiz, and Richie Goods. **Where: Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Konanakunte; When: July 6, 6.30 pm**

03 Stage saga

Tanariri Theatres is presenting 'Matsya Avatar', a story of love, survival, and the weight of choices in the face of disaster. **Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; When: June 20, 7.30 pm**

04 Nurture nature

Visthar is organising its cherished annual event, 'Bhoomi Habba – The Earth Festival'. This year, the event will focus on the critical themes of climate resilience and sustainable communities, offering a platform for reflection, learning, and engagement with alternative solutions for a just and equitable future. **Where: Visthar, Kothanur; When: June 7, 10 am to 7 pm**

05 Evocative art

Indian Institute of Cartoonists is presenting 'Through the Eyes of RK Laxman', a tribute exhibition in 78 colourful caricatures. The evocative collection offers a rare glimpse into the keen wit and unmatched artistic observation of a man who, for decades, held up a mirror to Indian society with both humour and grace. **Where: Indian Cartoon Gallery, Sivanchetti Gardens; When: June 7 to June 28**

Data reveals drop in air pollutant levels

Despite health impact of PM2.5 being more adverse, air quality levels are currently measured using PM10, which is no longer primary pollutant, says air quality expert

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Experts demand the creation of a denser network of monitoring stations to gauge air quality

Air pollution levels in many parts of the city appear to have improved over the last decade, according to data from the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB).

Compared to the baseline year of 2012-13, PM10 (particulate matter with a diameter of 10 micrometres) levels have improved in almost all ten commercial, residential, and industrial areas of Bengaluru being monitored using ambient air quality monitoring (AAQM) stations.

For instance, the annual average value of PM10 on Mysuru Road in 2012-13 was recorded at 169 µg/m³. Now, the level of this harmful air pollutant is 53 µg/m3, which is also below the national ambient air quality standard (60.0µg/m3).

Similarly, AAQM stations in Yeshwanthpura Industrial recorded PM10 levels of 152 µg/m3 ten years ago, which have gradually tapered down to 63 µg/m3 by 2023-24. As per KSPCB, PM10 values in the area have exceeded the national ambient air quality limit (60 µg/m3) during most of the years due to the construction activities, vehicular movement, and road dust.

Levels have recorded a significant drop on Hosur Road, Domlur, Kalyana Nagar, New Tharagupet, and also in industrial areas such as Whitefield Road, Yelahanka Rail Wheel Factory, and Peenya Industrial Area.

The KSPCB report also showed that the measured SO2, NO2, NH3, and PM2.5 values are well within the national limit (50 µg/m3, 40 µg/m3, 100 µg/m3, and 40 µg/m3, respectively), in all measured places.

During 2023-24, the board monitored the ambient air quality of Bengaluru at twelve locations using manual equipment under National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) and Board Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (BAMP) covering industrial areas, residential areas, commercial areas, and sensitive areas.

However, air quality experts are not impressed.

They say that the state pollution watchdog must focus on the levels of PM2.5, a more dangerous pollutant, in areas with high vehicular traffic. Moreover, the right representation of air pollution levels is possible only when PM2.5 concentration is considered. "Since the health impact of PM2.5 is much more adverse, it should be made a critical parameter in the calculation of AQI. PM10 is no longer a primary pollutant. It is time we shift our focus to levels of PM2.5. Currently, there are 11 CAAQMS stations in Bengaluru, and some of them are still not measuring PM2.5," said an air quality expert.

A study conducted last year by the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) in Bengaluru found that the city has as many as 80 locations with high levels of PM2.5 emissions

Notably, a study conducted last year by the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) in Bengaluru found that the city has as many as 80 locations with high levels of PM2.5 emissions. Out of the 80 polluted locations, Bingipura, Sankey Road, KCDC, Hebbal, Mekhri Circle, Bommasandra, Mavallipura, Jigani, Shanti Nagar, and Veerasandra were identified as the ten most potent emission hotspots.

There has also been a long-standing demand from experts to create a denser network of monitoring stations.

Nagarhole revises charge, new rates in place since June 1

The Forest Department has revised safari and entry fees across various safari zones in the Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, along with changes in safari timings, camera charges, and guest house tariffs. The new rates have come into effect from June 1. Safari services are available from Veeranahosahalli Gate in Hunsur taluk at 6.30 am and 3.30 pm, each lasting two hours. From the Nanchi Gate in Kodagu district, safari timings are 6 am, 9 am, 3 pm, and 4.30 pm. From Dammanakatte Safari Centre, HD Kote taluk, safaris are operated at 6 am, 6.30 am, 3 pm, and 3.30 pm. The updated safari fee is fixed at Rs 600 for adults and Rs 300 for children across all three safari centres. The jeep safari now costs Rs 1,000 per person, with the three-hour safari at Dammanakatte also revised to Rs 1,000. The cost for a full jeep safari remains Rs 7,700. Camera charges and guest house rentals have also been increased, according to PA Seema, Director of Nagarahole National Park.

— BMB

Three more police stations brought under Bengaluru Commissionerate

In a move to streamline law enforcement and improve administrative efficiency, the Karnataka government has brought three additional police stations under the jurisdiction of the Bengaluru City Police Commissionerate. Avalahalli, Hebbagodi (both in Bengaluru Rural), and Kumbalgodu (in Bengaluru South) police stations will now function under the Commissionerate's limits. This shift, notified through a government order issued on February 6, aims to ensure better policing and faster grievance redressal in these fast-developing suburban areas. Residents can now approach their respective stations — Avalahalli (080-28472500), Hebbagodi (080-27832922 / 28437599, mobile: 9480802854), and Kumbalgodu (080-9480802473 / 9480802451) — for all law and order-related issues.

— BMB

1.05 crore litres of milk collected in a day

The Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) has set a new all-time record by collecting over 1.05 crore litres of milk in a single day, with expectations to reach 1.10 crore litres soon. This milestone underscores the remarkable growth in milk production across the state, largely driven by favourable rainfall and abundant green fodder.

Leading the charge amongst the state's milk unions, Bengaluru Milk Union alone collected an impressive 18.51 lakh litres, outpacing other district unions. Following Bengaluru, the major contributors included Hassan with 14.92 lakh litres, Mandya with 13.05 lakh litres, Tumakuru with 10.44 lakh litres, Mysuru with 9.54 lakh litres, Shivamogga with 8.76 lakh litres, and Kolar with 7.79 lakh litres. Chikkaballapura and Dakshina Kannada collected 5.28 lakh litres and 4.16 lakh litres respectively. Across seven KMF zones encompassing 16 district milk unions, approximately 26.89 lakh farmers supply milk daily. Last year, on June 28, the previous high was 1 crore litres, making this year's achievement even more significant. The excellent monsoon and plentiful availability of green fodder have been key factors in boosting milk production.

— BMB

Romance turns rogue: B'luru man duped in crypto matrimony scam

Emotional trust and digital deception collide as a pre-owned bike dealer loses ₹38.85 lakh in a cryptocurrency-driven romance fraud

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

What began as a hopeful search for a life partner through a well-known matrimonial site spiralled into a devastating financial and emotional scam for Vinay (name changed), a pre-owned motorcycle businessman from Bangalore.

In a complaint filed on May 27, Vinay detailed how he was conned out of ₹38.85 lakh by a woman who introduced herself as Lakshmi Priya. The two connected on a well-known matrimonial platform and began chatting regularly.

Eventually, she arranged a video call that appeared to include members of her family, creating a sense of legitimacy and trust.

Lakshmi then introduced him to her "uncle," who claimed to run a UK-based investment firm. The two convinced Vinay to invest in a cryptocurrency trading platform named "Bost Base," accessed via a suspicious third-party link.

He started by depositing ₹65,000. To his surprise, the app showed impressive returns. Encouraged by what seemed like genuine profits and swayed by the emotional bond forming between them, Vinay continued investing. Over time, he poured in close to ₹25 lakh.

Lakshmi told him the trades were all successful and that his returns had grown to over ₹1.4 crore. When he asked to withdraw the amount, he was told he had to first clear "UK taxes" totalling ₹21 lakh.

"Man loses ₹38.85 lakh in cryptocurrency-romance scam on matrimonial site; emotional trust exploited through fake marriage, UK tax ruse

Shocked by the demand, Vinay hesitated. But Lakshmi reassured him, saying she would arrange ₹5 lakh herself and ask her uncle to lower the service fee by 2%. She urged him to arrange the remaining amount, insisting that it was the final step before withdrawal.

Believing in her and the dream they had built together, Vinay borrowed heavily from friends and family, and transferred the money to various bank accounts shared by Lakshmi. Once the funds were sent, she disappeared. All communication stopped on May 27.

"I felt like I was talking to a family," he wrote in his FIR, describing how Lakshmi consistently comforted him, shared daily profit updates, and even spoke of their future together.

Now left in emotional and financial ruin, Vinay has emptied business accounts and is in debt. He has approached authorities, hoping for justice and to warn others.

The case reflects a disturbing rise in hybrid scams that blend romance with investment fraud commonly known as "pig butchering" where emotional trust is weaponised to exploit victims for large sums of money.

Rider killed in hit-and-run

A 25-year-old scooter rider lost his life in a tragic hit-and-run accident in the early hours of Tuesday near Yashodhara Nagar Cross on the Bengaluru-Bellary Road Service Road.

The victim, Arun, a resident near GKVK, was riding his scooter around 3 am when a speeding white car hit him from behind. The impact flung him off the vehicle, causing fatal head and facial injuries. He died on the spot due to excessive bleeding. The car driver fled without stopping to help. Arun's father later filed a complaint at Yelahanka Traffic Police Station. Efforts are on to trace the absconding vehicle. -BMB

HC stops temple encroachment

The Karnataka High Court has instructed the State Urban Development Department to issue a circular restricting officers from permitting new constructions near protected monuments. It stated that any such approvals must first secure clearance from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

Justice M Nagaprasanna emphasised that the circular must also make it clear that officers granting permissions in violation of these guidelines could face departmental enquiry. The directive came while dismissing a petition filed by Denis Crasta, who challenged a Jan 28, 2025, order by Regional Director of the National Monuments Authority.

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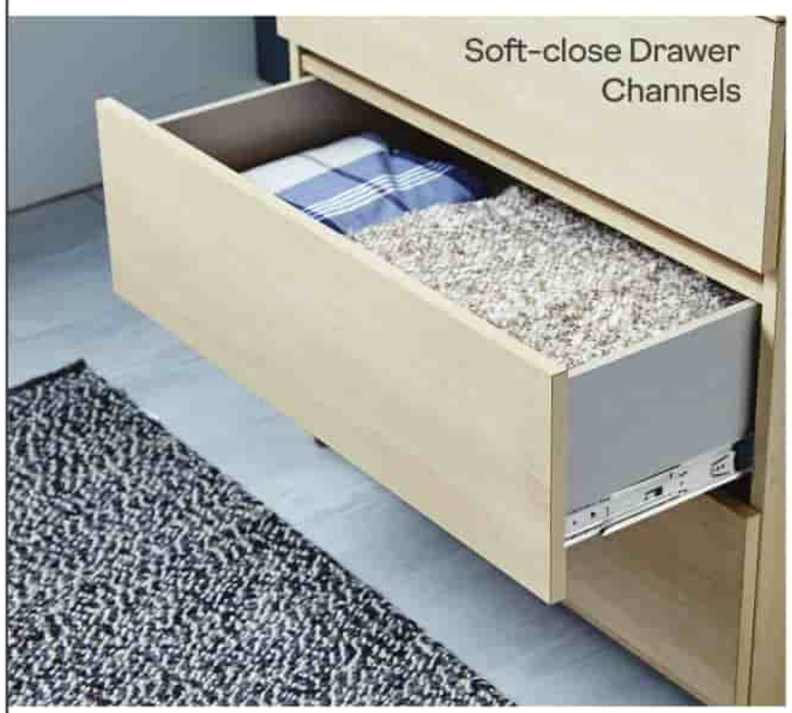

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State issues stern warning against unauthorised land development

Tough new rules mandate prior approvals, hold officials accountable, and aim to protect buyers from fraud and unplanned, unauthorised land development

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

In a decisive move to curb the mushrooming of unauthorised residential layouts, the state government has announced strict measures against illegal land development. Officials who fail to act will face disciplinary action, and the government has instructed jurisdictional deputy commissioners to seize properties developed in violation of norms. To this effect, the government has issued clear directives to gram panchayats, urban local bodies, and revenue officials, aiming to stop unapproved layouts at the source.

According to Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, many real estate developers are exploiting the aspirations of poor and middle-class families seeking to own a home. As a result, buyers end up in a legal limbo—owning sites in layouts without clear approvals or basic infrastructure, with no access to official building plans, loans, or civic amenities. This leaves families vulnerable, and the government helpless in regularising such settlements.

To prevent this from recurring, the state has mandated that no new residential layout shall be approved or allowed without prior sanction from the competent planning authorities. All deputy commissioners have been instructed not to entertain any exceptions.

It is the responsibility of the concerned gram panchayat, urban body, Tahsildar, and Deputy Commissioner to ensure that illegal layouts do not emerge

SC order backdrop

Minister Byre Gowda said that the Supreme Court has repeatedly directed the state to prevent the formation of unauthorised layouts. A fresh directive was issued by the court on May 30. Following this, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah directed that the government must not yield to any political or administrative pressure to regularise such illegal constructions. He added that Tahsildars will now be held directly responsible for unauthorised developments in their jurisdiction if they allow layouts to be formed without approval from the district collector and relevant authorities. If such directions are ignored, officials will face strict disciplinary proceedings.

What's in the new directive?

From now on, no unauthorised layouts should come up anywhere in the state. Anyone who wants to develop a layout must undergo the proper process—land conversion, map approval, and final sanction. It is the responsibility of the concerned gram panchayat, urban body, Tahsildar, and Deputy Commissioner to ensure that illegal layouts do not emerge. If any are detected, the government must seize the property, as per the new directive.

> **"The government must not yield to any political or administrative pressure to regularise such illegal constructions**
> — Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

Citizens trapped in limbo

People who buy plots in illegal layouts often spend a lifetime without proper housing benefits. These layouts typically lack roads, parks, civic amenities, and a healthy living environment. Moreover, home loans and construction permissions are denied, leaving residents in a state of legal and emotional uncertainty.

Government acting in public interest

The Supreme Court had issued stern warnings to the state government in December and April to demolish unauthorised constructions. But indiscriminate demolition would harm innocent buyers. Developers continue to profit from the loopholes, prompting the government to take a tougher stand now to protect public interest, senior revenue officials stated. The new order clarifies that henceforth, revenue officers, local bodies, and panchayats cannot shift blame to one another. If any unauthorised development is allowed in violation of the law, the concerned officer will face certain disciplinary action.

BBMP school students lead green revival drive

For Environment Day, saplings planted at rain-hit sites reflect students' commitment and volunteers' efforts to revive lost urban greenery

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The students of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike High School, in association with the volunteers of Bhandhava, have celebrated the World Environment Day by planting saplings on the same spots where once huge trees existed. Those trees fell down when the city was lashed with heavy rain recently. Around 60 students of the BBMP High School, Byrasandra, have gathered near the Swimming Pool not only to have awareness on the environment but also participate in planting saplings. The volunteers of Bhandhava presented saplings to all the students.

"Our objective is to plant saplings at 16 locations in and around Byrasandra ward. Sixteen huge trees fell down recently when the heavy rain lashed the city. Our volunteers will take care of the saplings planted at the 16 locations," said N Nagaraj of Bhandhva. He said the volunteers have been working to ensure Byrasandra and surrounding areas free from garbage and plastic. "We felt very sad when huge trees fell during the recent rain. Now, we are happy to compensate for the loss by planting saplings at the same locations. We have planted different types of saplings," he said.

Many residents and passers-by have appreciated the volunteers and BBMP High School students for planting the saplings. They said that the BBMP authorities and the volunteers have to take measures to plant saplings on the spots where trees fell due to heavy rain. Appreciating the volunteers of Bhandhava, Lokesh N, Assistant Science Teacher of BBMP High School said that the students

have got an opportunity to have awareness on environment and also plant a sapling either on the school premise or near their homes. "It is a good programme. It is a must to organise more and more similar programmes in all areas of Bengaluru to ensure greenery," said Lokesh.

Kounain Fathima, a 10th grade student, BBMP High School, said that she wants to plant the sapling in front of her home. "I want to nurture the sapling by watering it. I am very happy to be part of this programme," Fathima said.

Expressing the similar opinion, Nikhitha BK, a 10th grade student, said that she wants to plant the sapling (sampige) on the school premise. "It is a nice programme. I am happy to participate in planting saplings near the Swimming Pool," she said. Meanwhile, some environmentalists have appreciated the Bhandhava volunteers and the BBMP students for planting saplings at the locations where trees fell during the recent rain. "It is a good initiative. I welcome it. I want residents and volunteers to take up similar programmes at various locations in the city," said Balaji Raghotham, an environmentalist.

Appreciating the volunteers and the students, Dr Vijay Nishanth, known as a tree doctor, said the programme is apt and deserves a pat on the back. "I want the residents to take the initiative of planting 10 saplings for the loss of one tree to ensure greenery in the city," Dr Vijay Nishanth said.

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Garbage pileup

Banaswadi

The median along 100 ft Road, Banaswadi Main Road, remains littered with silt and garbage, with no cleaning efforts visible so far.

Trash trouble

Jayanagar

Garbage has piled up at Sangam Circle in Jayanagar 8th Block, raising hygiene concerns. Residents are urging BBMP to take immediate action and clean the area.

Cable danger

Nandini Layout

Dangling cables in the middle of roads, like these in BHEL Colony, Nandini Layout, are alarmingly common — posing a serious risk, especially to two-wheeler riders.

Students, saplings, and sustainability: CBSE's green push begins

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has asked schools across India to actively participate in a tree plantation drive under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0" campaign. The initiative, which builds on the success of last year's programme, will be carried out from June 5 to September 30, 2025, aligning with the monsoon plantation season.

A CBSE official said the campaign, implemented through Eco Clubs in schools, aims to foster environmental consciousness among students while promoting sustainable living practices. Educational institutions have been encouraged to plant saplings within school premises, along roads leading to schools, at students' homes, or in suitable public spaces. The initiative hopes to build a deeper connection with nature and highlight the importance of environmental stewardship.

To make the drive more meaningful, schools have been asked to motivate students to plant saplings alongside their mothers. This symbolic gesture is intended to strengthen both family bonds and the connection with Mother Earth. In addition, schools are encouraged to place placards next to each sapling, displaying the names of the student, their mother, and the species of the tree planted.

In an effort to blend tradition with technology, the campaign also proposes the use of QR codes for each tree species. These codes will provide botanical information, enabling students to deepen their understanding of plant biodiversity. Students are further encouraged to document the plantation activity by taking selfies, creating personal memories and inspiring others to take part.

The saplings planted under the drive are to be nurtured and maintained by students, with teachers from Eco Clubs guiding them as part of the Mission LiFE initiative. This long-term engagement is expected to instil a strong sense of responsibility and care for the environment among young citizens. Schools across the country are set to play a key role in this green movement, reinforcing their position as centres of environmental education and action. — BMB

CBSE's Sugar Boards: A smart step toward healthier school kids

Move aims to curb rising sugar intake, obesity and diabetes among school children through awareness and education

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)'s recent move to introduce "Sugar Boards" in over 24,000 affiliated schools across India is being viewed by public health stakeholders as a progressive step that supports national and international nutrition priorities.

The initiative comes amid a growing rise in lifestyle-related health concerns among children, including early-onset Type 2 diabetes and obesity conditions that were once predominantly seen in adults. Easy access to sugary snacks, soft drinks, and ultra-processed foods within school premises has been identified as a major contributor to unhealthy dietary habits among students.

Designed to be both educational and preventive, the Sugar Boards aim to raise awareness about recommended daily sugar intake, reveal the sugar content in commonly consumed food items, and explain the health risks associated with excessive sugar consumption. They also offer guidance on healthier food choices. The initiative echoes global recommendations, including those from the World Health Organisation (WHO), which advises limiting added sugars to less than 10% and ideally under 5% of daily energy intake.

A CBSE official noted that children aged between 4 and 18 consume considerably more sugar than recommended, with intake levels accounting for up to 15% of total calories among older children. This overconsumption is not only linked to metabolic issues but also to problems such as poor dental health and reduced academic performance.

Health experts have welcomed the initiative, emphasising that early intervention through education can lay the foundation for lasting healthy eating habits. However, they also caution that Sugar Boards alone are not enough. To make a lasting impact, the initiative must be supported by policy-level changes, including tighter controls on marketing high-fat, salt, and sugar (HFSS) foods to children and removing such products from school canteens.

In addition to raising awareness, experts are also advocating for regular health screenings in schools. Suggested checks include blood sugar levels, body mass index (BMI), waist circumference, and lipid profiles tools that can help identify early signs of non-communicable diseases and enable timely intervention. The CBSE's move is being widely interpreted as a proactive response to changing health patterns in children, one that blends educational outreach with a commitment to long-term public health goals. — BMB

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Within hours, joy turned into sorrow

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Curzon Hospital and Vydehi Superspecialty Hospital. He announced an ex-gratia compensation of ₹10 lakh for the families of the deceased and assured free treatment for all injured persons, including those admitted to private hospitals.

Unregulated entry

Officials confirmed that the stadium gates were broken by the surging crowd. There was no clarity on how fans would be allowed in. Although Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) had reportedly planned to issue QR code-based entry passes, the arrangement was not implemented effectively. Police sources said fans began walking from Vidhana Soudha to Chinnaswamy Stadium in large numbers. Despite barricades, people jumped over them, leading to a crush. A concrete slab reportedly collapsed under the weight of those standing on it. Police were heavily outnumbered, and crowd control became nearly impossible. Many fans brought RCB flags, which were later used by bystanders in desperate attempts to revive unconscious victims by fanning them.

Victims include schoolchildren

Among the victims was 14-year-old Divyanshi, a Class 9 student who had come to the stadium with her aunt and younger sister. She reportedly died of suffocation. A dental student and a female student from Ambedkar College also lost their lives. Most of the victims were young students and employees, aged between 25 and 30 years. Eyewitnesses recalled scenes of desperation and horror. Personal belongings, slippers, and bags lay strewn across the venue. The suspected cause of death in most cases was suffocation. Eight people sustained minor injuries such as toe fractures and bruises.

Metro services affected

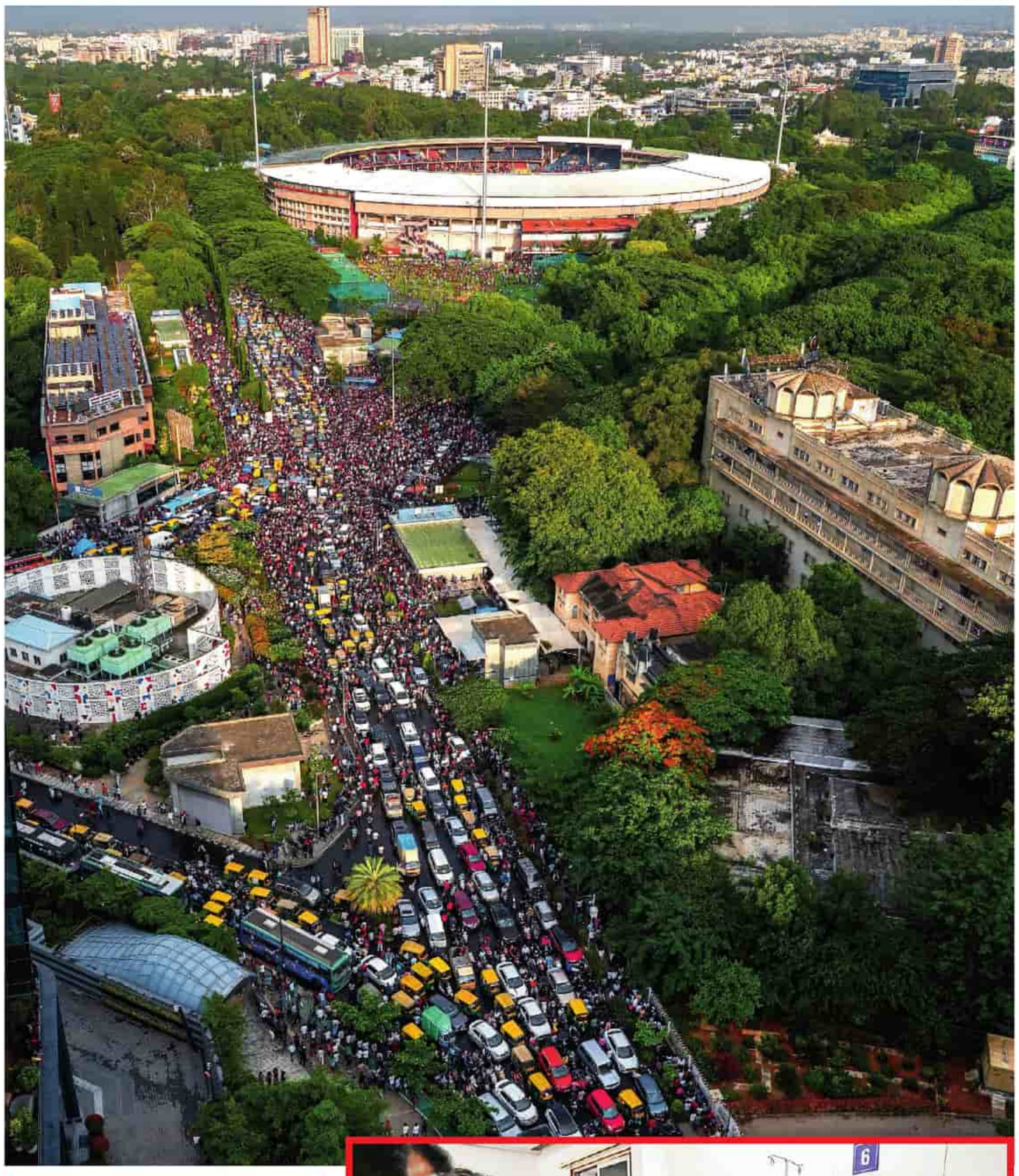
To manage the surging crowd, Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) suspended halts at Vidhana Soudha and Cubbon Park stations from 4.30 pm temporarily. Ticketing services at these stations were also stopped. Massive crowds were seen at Sir M Visvesvaraya and MG Road stations as fans diverted their travel routes.

Political fallout

Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, reacting to the incident, said, "I cannot comment now. The felicitation was moved from Vidhana Soudha to Chinnaswamy due to safety concerns, yet despite 5,000 police personnel, a tragedy occurred. Our police had warned us earlier, but we didn't expect this crowd."

Former Indian cricketer Madan Lal slammed the government and cricketing bodies. "While people were dying outside, there was celebration inside. BCCI and RCB must be held accountable. Families should sue for ₹100 crore." The BJP lashed out at the Congress government, accusing it of "criminal negligence" and "photo-op politics" during a tragedy. "This is nothing short of a massacre," said BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla, demanding the resignation of the CM, Dy CM, and Home Minister.

KAUSHIK JN



Heart-wrenching scenes

A heart-wrenching scene unfolded at the hospital where the injured were being treated. The air was filled with cries, chaos, and unbearable grief as distraught parents and relatives rushed in desperation to find their loved ones. Many were in disbelief, refusing to accept the reality that their family members were no more. Some were escorted to the morgue, where they faced the unimaginable task of identifying the lifeless bodies of their children. Earlier at Chinnaswamy Stadium, tragedy unfolded in the most brutal way — some children collapsed and died right in front of their parents' eyes, while others vanished in the crowd, leaving their families frantically searching with no answers. Amid the panic, gut-wrenching scenes emerged of bystanders trying to perform CPR on the fallen, desperately hoping to snatch a few lives back from the jaws of death.

A view of the block created due to the surge of fans who were all headed towards M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Wednesday; CM Siddaramaiah visits the inured in the hospital

Frustrated fans

Some fans, in frustration, reportedly hurled stones and slippers at Vidhana Soudha. The aftermath near the stadium saw abandoned footwear and scattered belongings.

The KSCA, which organised the felicitation, is facing criticism for poor planning and mismanagement. Police had to resort to a mild lathi charge to disperse the crowd as chaos erupted.

Victory parade cancelled

A victory parade that was initially planned in the city but was cancelled at the last minute. At 11.56 am, the Joint Commissioner of Police MN Anucheth issued a message stating that a felicitation event for the RCB team would take place at Chinnaswamy Stadium from 5 pm to 6 pm, with entry restricted to ticket or pass holders only, and clarified that there would be no victory parade. He also advised the public to avoid the Central Business District (CBD) area between 3 pm and 8 pm and to use Metro or public transport due to limited parking. However, just 12 minutes later, Anucheth said that the matter was still under discussion and updates would follow. Eventually, Shivakumar confirmed that the parade was cancelled.

Complete failure of crowd control

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

5. Police force was outnumbered
Despite 5,000 police personnel being deployed, they were overwhelmed by the sheer size of the crowd. Warnings by police about potential risks were reportedly ignored.

6. No ambulances or medical readiness
There were no ambulances or emergency medical teams stationed at the venue. Victims had to be rushed to hospitals in private vehicles or with assistance from bystanders.

7. Gate management failure
Entry through small and insufficient gates, particularly Gate 12 where the stampede occurred, became choke points. Some gates were reportedly broken open by the crowd, leading to chaos.

8. Converging crowds from Vidhana Soudha to stadium
Many fans who had gathered at Vidhana Soudha also moved toward Chinnaswamy Stadium, adding to the crowd surge. There was no traffic or pedestrian flow control between the two venues.

9. Uncoordinated effort
The KSCA and government officials allegedly did not coordinate effectively, resulting in a lack of joint crowd management strategy or on-ground execution plan.

10. No crowd segregation
Vulnerable attendees, including women, children (like 14-year-old Divyanshi), and the elderly, were not given separate entry/exit points or safe zones, putting them at greater risk during the chaos.

11. No emergency evacuation
There was no defined crowd dispersal mechanism post-event, and no emergency protocol for mass evacuation, leaving the crowd trapped in confined spaces during the peak rush.

Public outcry over ride-sharing platforms' tipping tactics

Commuters have taken to social media platforms to express their woes, highlighting that although tip is deemed 'voluntary' drivers often do not accept their ride requests without it

Sanjana CS
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Multiple commuters across the city shared similar experiences with ride-hailing platforms

Despite ride sharing aggregators in Bengaluru renaming the controversial 'advance tip' as a 'voluntary contribution' following Union Minister Pralhad Joshi's intervention and the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) probe, commuters say the change is only cosmetic. The tipping system, though labelled optional, appears to be anything but, with drivers allegedly refusing rides when no tip is included. The issue has been a topic of discussion amongst consumers on social media platforms for the past two to three months.

The uproar began after Joshi flagged the issue to the Centre, prompting the CCPA to step in and demand greater transparency from ride-hailing platforms. In response, companies updated their app interfaces to present tipping. However, users report that the problem persists behind the scenes. "I tried booking an auto without adding a tip, and it kept getting delayed. But the moment I added Rs 20 as a tip, it was accepted immediately," said a commuter.

The tips, typically asked at the end as an optional feature meant to appreciate good service, are being asked even before the ride is even confirmed. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, in a recent X post, shared along with screenshots that Uber's 'advance tip' feature is unethical and falls under unfair trade practices.

In the post, Pralhad Joshi stated that "The practice of 'advance tip' is deeply concerning. Forcing or nudging users to pay a tip in advance, for faster service is unethical and exploitative. Such actions fall under unfair trade practices. Tip is given as a token of appreciation, not as a matter of right, after the service." He said that taking cognisance of this, he had asked CCPA to look into the matter, following which Uber was issued a notice. He added that fairness, transparency, and accountability must be upheld in all customer interactions.

Based on observations, platforms like Namma Yatri, Uber, and others initially updated the 'advance tip' feature to display as 'voluntary'. However, when a BM reporter checked on June 3, the app still showed only preset tip options — Rs 10, Rs 20, and Rs 30 — with no 'none' option available. Later in the night, the 'none' option was added, but the change did not work as intended.

A commuter, following the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) match celebrations, recalled their struggle to book a ride to HSR Layout. After multiple failed attempts, they finally managed to get an auto by adding a Rs 30 tip. The commuter highlighted that the usual fare to HSR Layout is around Rs 97 to Rs 98, or Rs 107 to Rs 108 during odd hours. The commuter shared, "Yesterday, because of heavy traffic and crowd after the celebrations, autos kept cancelling for about 45 minutes. I initially added a Rs 10 tip, but no one accepted. Even with Rs 20, an auto came close just 400 meters away but cancelled again due to the traffic. Eventually, I added Rs 30 and pleaded with the driver not to cancel."

Multiple users across the city shared similar experiences. On social media, screenshots and testimonials have surfaced, indicating that often unless a tip ranging from Rs 10 to Rs 30 is offered upfront, drivers do not accept the trip.

"Once, I was charged Rs 50 more than the usual fare for a ride from Bellandur to Indiranagar during peak hours. Desperate to find a ride, I initially offered a Rs 10 tip, but no driver accepted. The app suggested reconsidering the tip amount, so I increased it to Rs 80. I got a ride instantly," a user stated on X

Drivers, however, have a different story to tell. "We work long hours, deal with traffic, and struggle with rising fuel prices, yet our earnings keep getting cut. We have financial responsibilities, and tips help us make ends meet, especially when we can't demand extra or negotiate fares," said Manu, an auto driver. He admitted that he preferred accepting bookings with tips, especially during peak hours.

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Booker awardees share their journey to success

In a celebratory event hosted by the Karnataka Media Academy and the Press Club of Bengaluru, 2025, International Booker Prize awardees Banu Mushtaq and Deepa Bhasthi engaged in a spirited Q&A session with members of the press, marking what many described as a proud moment for journalism, as both winners come from journalistic backgrounds.

Banu Mushtaq, whose Kavana Sankalana, a short poetry collection, 'Heart lamp', became the first-of-its-kind to win the prestigious prize, emphasised that success is not bound by geography or background. "All that matters is knowledge and confidence," she said, urging young girls to believe in themselves. She also revealed that she is currently working on a Katha Sankalana (short story collection).

Deepa Bhasthi, who translated the award-winning work, shared insights into her translation process, underlining the importance of cultural nuance. "Translation is not just about converting words, it's about preserving the essence of the original," she said during the interaction. — BMB

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Wagh Santosh Sudhakar R/o VPO Chandol, dist. Buldhana (MH)pin 443106 I have changed my son's name from Rudransh to Rudransh Santosh Wagh Vide Affidavit No-IN 4540678 2232626X Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate. Mayo Hall, Bangalore & in KA37364116288 400X Notary S.I. Balaguru. Bangalore date 30 May 2025

I Mamatha N S W/O, Vinod Natarajan R/o Veene Mane No19 6th Cross Bhuvaneshwari Nagar Dasarahalli Main Road Hebbal Kempapura Bangalore 560024 have changed my name to Mamatha Vinod N S.

I,ARWA Kaide Johar W/o Kaide Johar Miyajiwala R/o 17/3,9th A Cross Road,2nd floor,Taher Villa Wilson Garden-560027 have changed my name to Arwa

I Prakash Badiger S/o Maruti Badiger R/o 7, 3rd Main, Gangondanahalli Main Road, Nelagadaranahalli, Nagasandra, B'lore-73 changed name as Prakash Badiger by replacing Prakash in all records for all purposes declared before Notary.

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I, Padma Anjanappa R/o No.38, Anjanadri Nilaya, 14th cross, 20th main, Padmanabhanagar, Bengaluru 560070 have changed my name to Padma Channappa Affidavit Dt.04/06/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Arakhita Gouda F/o No.14881624F NK/MT Ajit Kumar Gouda R/o At Dankari Sidheshwar Digapahandi Ganjam (Odisha) have changed my name to Arakhit Gouda for all purposes.

I, Abhijith Madhu s/o Madhu Kalamanoor R/o 180 Tejas, Amrutha Nagar Main Road. Parshwanatha Nagar, Kannayakana Agrahara, B'luru-560062 have changed my name to Abhijith Madhu Deepa

I, VANDANA PURUSHOTHAM, residing at 7, 5th Main, 3rd Cross, S R Nagar Bangalore – 560027, have changed my name to VANDANA LAKSHMANA, vide affidavit dated 02/06/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I Arun Kumar R/o No.55 Gowdru Hatti, 17th Cross, 8th Main,Muthyalnagar Bengaluru 560054 have changed my minor son name from Laveesh Arun Gowda to Laveesh Arun Affidavit Dt.04/06 /2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Kaide Johar R/o 17/3,9th A Cross Road,2nd floor,Taher Villa Wilson Garden-560027 have changed my name to Kaide Johar Miyajiwala.

I, Likhith Parvathi Lakshmi Narayan Reddy R/o 14 Chiru Arcade M Basappa Reddy Compound Y V Annaiah Road Yelachenahalli B'luru 560078 have changed my name to Likith P L for all purposes.

I, Rinku Kumari, W/o Mukesh Kumar, residing at No.11, 24th Cross, Killari Road, Bangalore - 560053, hereby declare that I have changed my name from Rinku Kumari to Rinku Devi for all purposes henceforth. All concerned may note.

I, AMARAVATHI, residing at 105/D, 2nd Main Road,1st R Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560010, have changed my name to P AMARAVATHI, vide affidavit dated 29/04/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, Devendra Rao Muslae S/o M Mohan Rao R/o No.119 17th Main, 5th cross, FF Layout, Laggere, Bengaluru 560058 have changed my name to Devendra Rao Musale, I shall be called by this name for all purpose

I, RADHIKA VIJAY SHANKAR, residing at 12/35, 1st Floor, 2nd Cross, Munireddy Lyt, Chikkalasandra, Padmanabhanagar, Bangalore – 560061, have changed my name to RADHIKA SHANKAR, vide affidavit dated 04/06/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

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BEHIND THE BULLY

We have to ask why children bully other kids

The Australian federal government has launched a "rapid review" to look at what works to prevent bullying in schools.

Led by mental health experts, the review will underpin a new national standard to respond to bullying. This follows the death of a young Sydney school student last year.

It also comes as the Queensland government rolls out a AUD 33 million anti-bullying plan in the state's schools.

As schools, parents and governments look at what more can be done to prevent bullying, we have to ask why children bully other kids.

If we understand the motives, we can help these children change their behaviour – and achieve their goals or have their needs met in other ways.

What lies behind bullying?

Research tells us children broadly bully for social reasons. For example, a 2022 study showed children can bully to gain social status among peers – to be seen as powerful, tough or cool. Or they can bully to maintain status as part of an in-group. Perhaps another child is seen as a "threat" to that status.

Children can also bully for revenge for perceived insults. Or for entertainment – making a joke at another student's expense.

Research shows motivations can also differ depending on the type of bullying. For example, face-to-face bullying seems to involve more children who bully for social dominance, while those who cyberbully do it more for entertainment and "fun".

In a 2014 study, Marilyn Campbell and colleagues asked different groups about their perceptions of why young people engaged in cyber-bullying. Parents said children did it out of revenge for being bullied themselves, teachers said students did it for fun, and students thought others cyber-bullied because of peer pressure.

This highlights how complex understanding children's motives can be.

> **Children can also bully for revenge for perceived insults. Or for entertainment – making a joke at another student's expense**

Children may not bully for long

We should be careful about thinking of all students who bully as long-term "bullies".

Most children who bully try the behaviour and stop when it does not get them what they want, just as many children who are victimised are not bullied for long.

Though of course, even being bullied for a short time can still be damaging and traumatic for the student on the receiving end.

This could suggest there is a developmental phase in bullying as most bullying occurs between children in Year 6 through to Year 10.

However, there are those students who persistently bully others and these are the students whose behaviour remains a problem despite interventions and prevention approaches.

Who is more likely to bully?

There are certain personality types who are more likely to persistently bully others. These include:

1) students with defensive personalities. This means they think very highly of themselves and actively seek attention but can't take criticism

2) students with narcissistic personalities, who are likely to become aggressive when their egos are threatened

3) students who are emotionally unstable.

But research is mixed on the question of self-esteem. Some researchers say children who bully have high self-esteem, yet others have found they have low self-esteem.

There are many reasons why a child might develop the personality traits that would lead them to bully.

Physical abuse in childhood can play a role. There is an association between a child being exposed to domestic violence at home and then bullying their peers.

Parenting can also be a factor. For example, being overvalued but not well disciplined by parents can lead to higher traits of narcissism and a greater likelihood a child will bully.

What can we do?

Children who persistently bully may require targeted and nuanced approaches. Current approaches emphasise restoring positive relationships, rather than punishments or sanctions.

One approach is individual motivational interviewing. Here a school counsellor shows young people they can achieve their goals by other means. This encourages perpetrators to see there are more benefits in not bullying than in bullying. For example, "I want to be popular. But if I bully, I also make other kids scared of me and not want to hang around me."

More broadly, schools can also teach explicit programmes on social and emotional learning.

These programmes focus on emotional intelligence and emotional literacy, enabling students to recognise and manage their emotions, understand the perspectives of others and have positive relationships with peers.

Schools which respect the diversity of students, are also better placed to address bullying. If all students have opportunities to participate in learning, it will develop their sense of belonging to their school community. This not only decreases rates of bullying but supports students who have been victimised.

(By Marilyn Campbell and Shannon O'Brien, Queensland University of Technology, The Conversation)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Maternal exposure to toxic air during pregnancy can raise premature birth risk: Study

Exposure to the tiny particles in air pollution during pregnancy can disrupt maternal metabolisms, altering key biological pathways, according to a study.

These changes were associated with an increased risk of various negative birth outcomes, including premature birth, said researchers from Emory University.

Preterm birth is also linked to complications such as cerebral palsy, respiratory distress syndrome, and long-term noncommunicable disease risks, while early-term births (37-39 weeks of gestation) are also associated with increased neonatal morbidity and developmental challenges.

Approximately 10 per cent of the preterm births in the world are attributable to PM2.5 exposure.

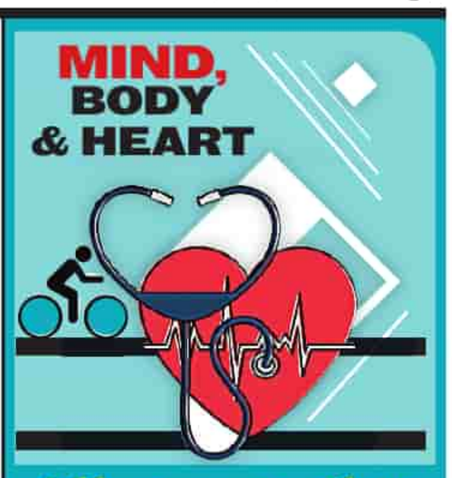
"The link between air pollution and premature birth has been well established, but for the first time we were able to look at the detailed pathway and specific fine particles to identify how they are reflected in the increased risk of adverse birth outcomes," said lead author Donghai Liang, and associate professor of environmental health at the varsity's Rollins School of Public Health.

"This is important because if we can figure out the 'why' and 'how' then we can know better how to address it," Liang added.

The study, which analysed blood samples provided by 330 pregnant women, identified two substances -- cortexolone and lysoPE -- as factors in the relationship between short-term air pollution exposure and elevated risk of early births, offering a potential mechanism through which air pollution triggers premature labour.

"This is important because if we can figure out the 'why' and 'how' then we can know better how to address it," Liang added.

–IANS



All you need to know about...

Nail care tips

1. Moisturise Regularly
Just like your skin, your nails crave hydration. Make it a habit to apply cuticle oil or a nourishing hand cream daily to prevent dryness and breakage. This simple step will help your nails grow stronger and stay resistant to peeling.

2. Avoid Harsh Chemicals
Limit exposure to harsh cleaning products, acetone-based removers, and strong soaps, as they can weaken nails. Always protect your hands with gloves while cleaning or washing dishes to prevent damage and dryness.

3. Don't Use Nails as Tools
Avoid using your nails to open cans, scratch surfaces, peel off stickers or as makeshift screwdrivers. This prevents unnecessary stress and cracks.

4. Keep Nails Trimmed and Filed
Shape your nails every 1–2 weeks to prevent snags and breakage. Use a gentle nail file in one direction to avoid splitting.

5. Limit Gel and Acrylic Usage
Frequent gel or acrylic manicures can weaken nails over time. Give your nails a break between sessions to restore their strength.

6. Use a Strengthening Base Coat
Before applying nail polish, use a nail hardener or strengthening base. It adds a protective layer and boosts nail resilience.

7. Stay Hydrated
Drink plenty of water. Dehydration makes nails brittle and more prone to breaking or peeling.

8. Strengthen From Within
A diet rich in biotin, protein, zinc, and iron is essential for strong nail growth. If your diet lacks these nutrients, consider taking a biotin supplement (Vitamin B7), which is known to improve nail strength and thickness – only after consulting with your doctor.

– Femina

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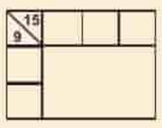
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

5# x 4! – 4! x 2^2 = ?

Kakuro

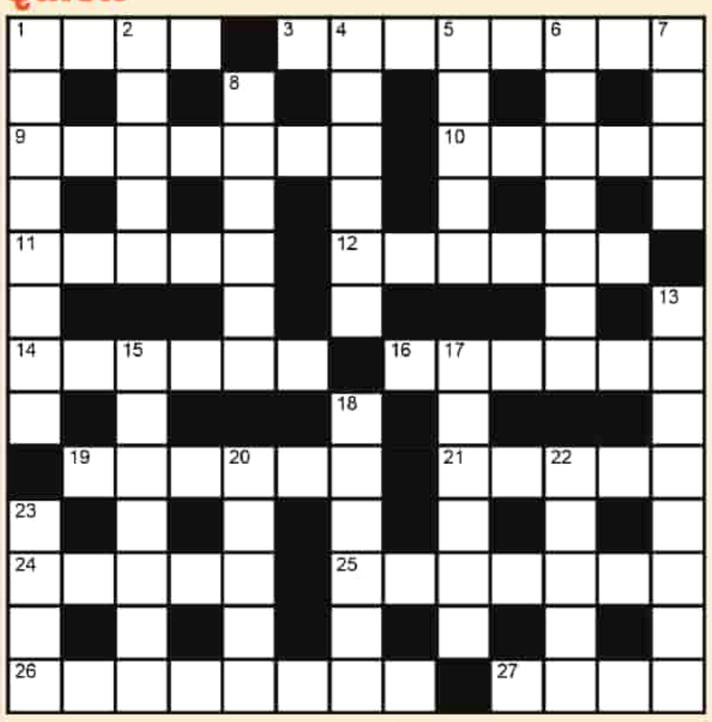
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.

	12	11		29	5		9	25	
4			8			7			7
17			13 3			23			
	8				9		9 11		
		16				3 6			
	6	10		6				26	
4			8		20 17				4
14				7 16			11 12		
		23				6			
			11			16			

Quick



ACROSS

1 The burning part of a candle (4)
3 Say or utter loudly (5,3)
9 Wealthiest (7)
10 Rock group ____ Creed (5)
11 Japanese poem (5)
12 Dripped, leaked or secreted (6)
14 P in BBMP (6)
16 Luggage-carrier (6)
19 Walking disorder (6)
21 Prop or stretcher (5)
24 Still sleeping? (3,2)
25 Srinagar locale (7)
26 D-Day landing site (8)
27 Flushing Meadows initials (4)

DOWN

1 Various naval units (8)
2 Spiny, succulent plants (5)
4 Set against? (6)
5 Farewell on the continent, perhaps? (5)
6 Remnant, leftover (7)
7 Ivory source? (4)
8 Expose a fraud (6)
13 Judging standards (8)
15 Crayfish (7)
17 Frequent, hang around or haunt (6)
18 Vinoo and Ashok of Indian cricket (6)
20 Brownish colour (5)
22 Plays like children (5)
23 Let __ __ : tell? (2,2)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS S

RLXXVRR CR QLV NT TLU RNUVNXWCFM NT NWV XW-DEEVFMVR TH ECHV. HDCELUV XTAVR ZWVF ZV RWUCFB HUTA NWVA.

Linemaro

If you were a vegetable, you would be a cute-cumber

Mindchow

Compassion is the antitoxin of the soul: where there is compassion, even the most poisonous impulses remain relatively harmless

Joke of the day

I almost had a psychic girlfriend, but she left me before we met

Loop

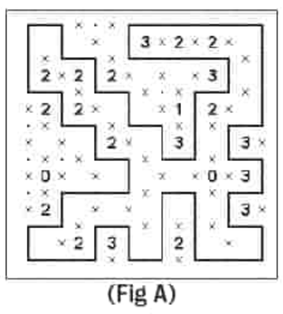
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

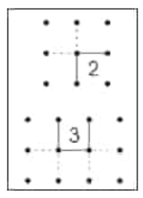
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

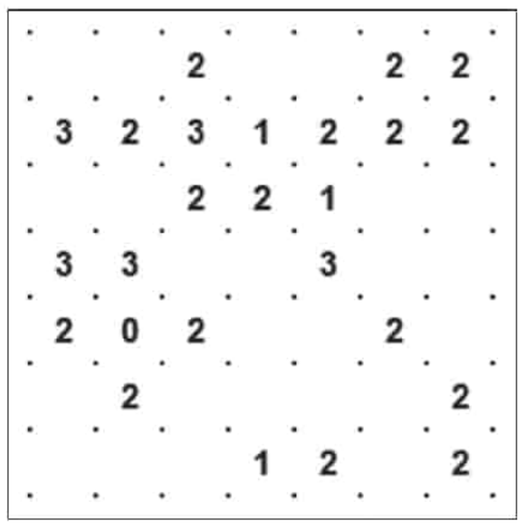
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



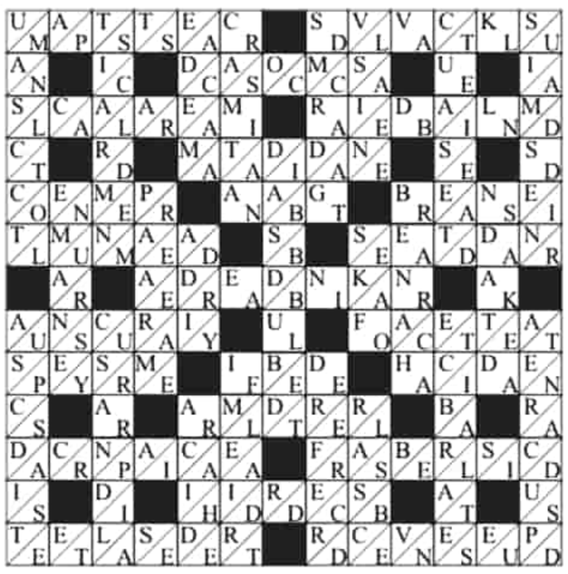
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4 G	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

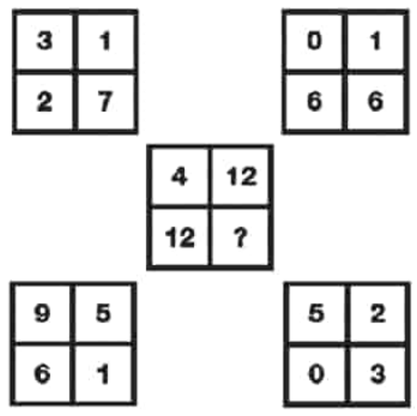
1 Fug ED; 6 Voter; 7 Turin; 8 A mule; 9 Reams

DOWN

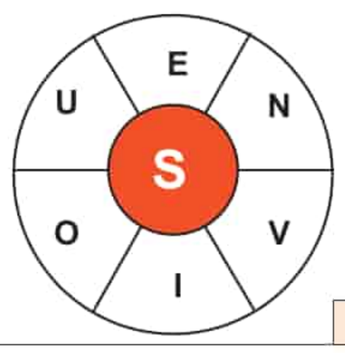
1 Of rum; 2 A luv U; 3 Treed; 4 Rig me; 5 A nest

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark in the middle box?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		8	2		1	9		
9			5		7			6
		5				3		
	7	4		6		1	2	
	8	1		5		4	9	
		6				7		
2			1		9			5
		9	3		6	8		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 7

2 7 8 8

Medium = 16

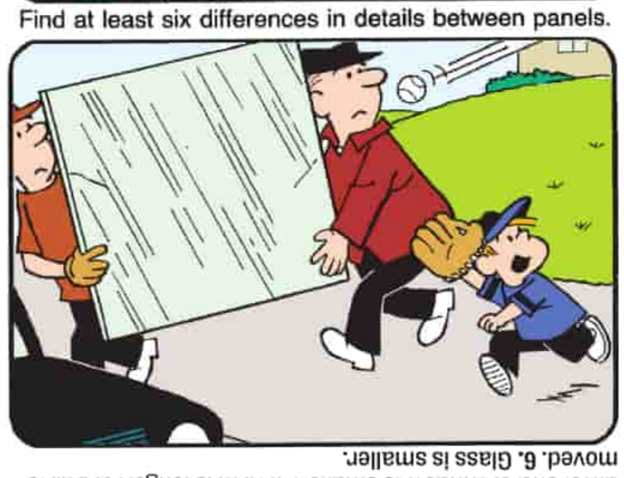
5 6 8 9

Hard = 6

1 6 8 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



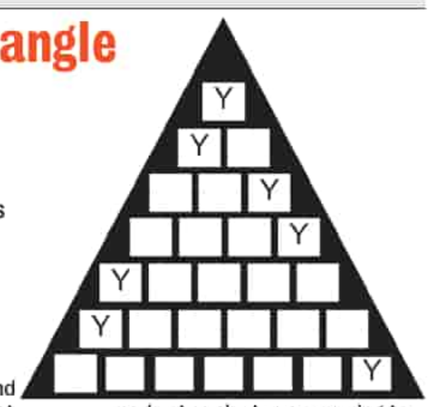
Differences: 1. Baseball glove is different. 2. Foot is different. 3. Window is smaller. 4. Arm is longer. 5. Ball is moved. 6. Glass is smaller.

Riddler

What phrase does this represent? PPOD

Alpha triangle

1 25th letter
2 Yes, slang
3 Declare
4 Effortless
5 Irish poet
6 Leavening agents
7 Rapture

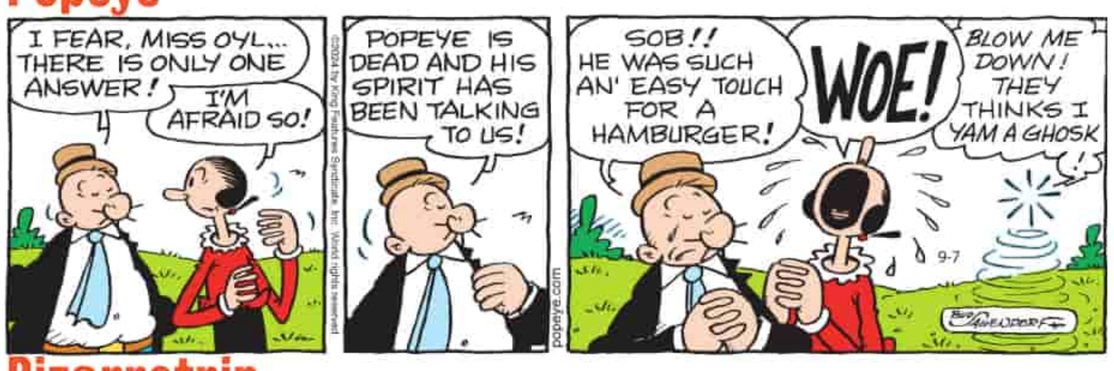


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye


I FEAR, MISS OYL... THERE IS ONLY ONE ANSWER!
I'M AFRAID SO!
POPEYE IS DEAD AND HIS SPIRIT HAS BEEN TALKING TO US!
SOB!! HE WAS SUCH AN' EASY TOUCH FOR A HAMBURGER!
WOE!
BLOW ME DOWN! THEY THINKS I YAM A GHOSK
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

PSST, DEAN! LEMME GET A PIECE OF GUM TOO.
SURE!
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO TELLING PEOPLE THAT WAS YOUR LAST PIECE?
DON'T YOU WORRY.
I CAME PREPARED TODAY.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

ANOTHER SUGGESTION THEY'RE FLOATING FOR DEALING WITH THE SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SHORTAGE...
WOULD BE FOR KIDS WHO LIVE UNDER A MILE FROM SCHOOL TO WALK TO SCHOOL...
IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA CREDIT IN PHY'S ED.
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2-27

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today brings happiness and harmony into your life. You'll spread positivity around you and enjoy romantic moments with your spouse. Family support will play a crucial role in helping you make significant professional decisions. You may also explore new ventures or partnerships in business or work.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
The positive influence of the Moon brings joy and patience today. Your performance at work may improve, leading to rewards or incentives. Family health concerns are likely to resolve, and job seekers may find a suitable opportunity. Love birds can look forward to a pleasant day together.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
The day may bring mixed outcomes. It's wise not to place high expectations on others, as this may lead to disappointment. Focus on self-reflection and analysis. This internal clarity will boost your confidence and prepare you to face upcoming challenges.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Feelings of dissatisfaction might weigh on you today. A lack of patience could hinder your productivity and cause minor errors at work. A visit to a spiritual place might offer peace. Consider practicing meditation or yoga to restore mental balance.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
You're blessed by the Moon, and destiny seems to be in your favor. You'll feel energetic and focused, and your hard work may lead to success. Colleagues may offer their support, and a short work-related trip could prove beneficial. Good news from a sibling is possible.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
You may be preoccupied with family matters today. Important decisions may be made on the domestic front, but avoid engaging in arguments, as arrogance could disrupt harmony at home. By evening, things are likely to settle. Trust your intuition when considering business investments.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Chaos begins to subside today, bringing mental peace. You'll achieve a better balance between expenses and income, improving your financial outlook. Avoid overworking or excessive travel, as it could affect your health. Students can start planning for their future, and love birds may enjoy quality time together.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
You might experience health-related issues today, particularly due to lack of sleep. Mental fatigue and laziness may impact your focus and productivity. Avoid reckless driving, adventurous activities, and unnecessary spending to maintain well-being and balance.

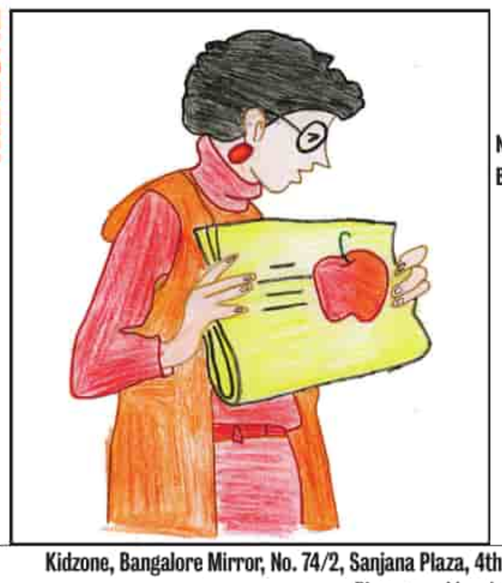
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Social engagements may keep you busy today. Reconnecting with old friends and strengthening your network could bring future professional benefits. Those in export-import, fashion, or art-related fields may see positive results. Students are likely to perform well, and love life will be joyful.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Strong family support will be your foundation today. You may see growth in your family business, enhancing your social standing. There could also be discussions about expanding the family, which will strengthen family bonds. Students may find opportunities for higher education scholarships.

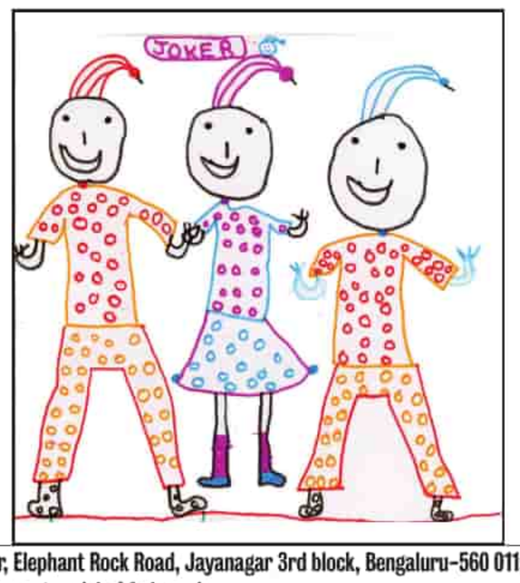
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Spiritual energy may uplift you today. Positive outcomes from past investments are likely. Your relationship with your boss may improve, potentially leading to a promotion. You may receive good news from a sibling. However, be mindful of your tone in personal or romantic relationships to avoid misunderstandings.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Lack of sleep might lead to laziness and reduced focus today. Carelessness may affect your confidence and slow your work progress. Avoid risky investments and steer clear of spicy food to prevent digestive issues. Drive cautiously and avoid haste in all areas.

KIDZONE



Niveditha
Bengaluru



Chandana
Bengaluru

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Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
5# = 5 x 3 x 2 =30
4! = 24
30 x 24 – 24 x 4
720-96 = 624

BULL'S EYE
ENVIOUS, noise, nose, onus, sine

STRIKE OUT

M	A	T	T	E	R	■	S	L	A	C	K	S		
A	■	I	■	D	A	C	C	A	■	E	■	A		
S	A	L	A	A	M	■	R	I	B	A	L	D		
C	■	D	M	A	D	A	N	■	S	■	D	■		
O	N	E	R	■	N	A	G	■	B	E	N	E		
T	U	N	E	D	■	B	■	S	E	D	A	N		
R	■	A	R	A	B	I	A	N	■	K	■	■		
U	S	U	R	Y	■	L	■	O	C	T	E	T		
P	E	R	M	■	F	E	D	■	H	I	D	E		
A	■	A	L	D	E	R	■	A	■	A	■	■		
C	A	■	A	L	■	F	A	B	R	I	C	■		
A	R	N	I	C	A	■	F	A	B	R	I	C		
S	■	I	■	H	I	D	E	S	■	A	■	U		
M	A	T	T	E	R	■	S	L	A	C	K	S		

QUICK

W	I	C	K	■	S	P	E	A	K	O	U	T		
A	■	A	■	D	■	I	■	D	■	D	■	U		
R	I	C	H	E	S	T	■	I	N	D	U	S		
S	■	T	■	B	■	T	E	■	M	■	■	K		
H	A	I	K	U	■	E	X	U	D	E	D	■		
I	■	N	■	D	■	■	■	■	■	N	■	C		
P	A	L	I	K	E	■	P	O	R	T	E	R		
S	■	O	■	M	■	■	■	B	■	■	■	I		
A	B	A	S	I	A	■	S	T	R	U	T	■		
I	■	■	■	N	■	■	■	E	■	O	■	E		
■	■	■	■	■	■	K	■	S	H	M	I	R		
N	O	T	U	P	■	K	A	S	H	M	I	R		
O	■	E	■	I	■	A	■	S	■	P	■	I		
N	O	R	M	A	N	D	Y	■	U	S	T	A		

MENSA PUZZLE
9. Calculate the sum of the numbers in corresponding positions of the outer 4 squares, subtract 5 form this result, and put it in the corresponding position of the middle square, 1/4 turn anticlockwise from the original.

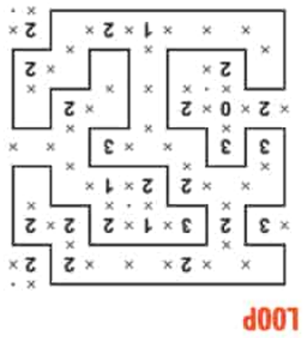
SUDOKU

7	6	8	2	3	1	9	5	4
9	1	3	5	4	7	2	8	6
4	2	5	6	9	8	3	7	1
5	7	4	9	6	3	1	2	8
3	9	2	8	1	4	5	6	7
6	8	1	7	5	2	4	9	3
8	3	6	4	2	5	7	1	9
2	4	7	1	9	6	3	5	8
1	5	9	3	7	6	8	4	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
Y, Ya, Say, Easy, Yeats, Yeasts, Ecstasy.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 – 2 + 8 – 7 = 7
Medium
8 + 9 – 6 + 5 = 16
Hard
4 + 8 – 6 x 1 = 6

LOOP



KAKURO

FAST FIVE

M	A	R	E	S
U	L	E	M	A
R	U	T	I	N
O	V	E	R	T
F	U	D	G	E

QUOTE UNCODE
Success is due to our stretching to the challenges of life. Failure comes when we shrink from them.

RIDDLER
Two peas in a pod.

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 # Cillian in 28 Days Later sequel
Director Danny Boyle confirmed that Cillian Murphy will reprise his role in the '28 Days Later' franchise

LARGER THAN LIFE

Acting was never part of a plan for Rashmika, but she is glad it turned out the way it did

As she finishes eight years in the industry, Rashmika Mandanna talks to ETimes on the road so far. "I'm immensely grateful for everything these past eight years have brought into my life. As I step into my ninth year, my hope is to continue growing both as an actor and as a person by embracing new experiences and constantly learning along the way. Looking back, the journey hasn't always been easy, but it has been incredibly fulfilling. There's still so much I want to explore and achieve, and I truly believe the path ahead is filled with opportunities for growth, discovery, and new experiences," she said.

She said that acting was never part of some grand plan. "I never imagined I'd become an actor one day but I did, and I'm so thankful that life unfolded the way it did. I genuinely wouldn't have it any other way."

With popularity, she's also faced scrutiny, particularly for her performances in Animal and Sikandar. "Over the years, I've definitely learned to differentiate between noise and constructive criticism especially when it comes to my craft. Of course, there are days when certain things I read don't feel great. I'm human, and it does affect me at times. But then there are also days when I feel incredibly grateful for the people in my life who lift me up, remind me of how far I've come, and see the go-getter in me," she elaborates, adding, "Constructive feedback is always welcome, and I truly hope to keep learning, evolving, and becoming better with every step. Growth, after all, should never stop."

–ETimes

Dance like Tom

Actor Tom Hiddleston gets candid about working in 'The Life of Chuck', a science fiction drama film written and directed by Mike Flanagan.

It is based on 2020 novella of the same name by Stephen King. The film stars Tom Hiddleston, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Karen Gillan, Jacob Tremblay, and Mark Hamill.

The film, which won the audience award at TIFF last year, follows three chapters in the life of an ordinary man named Charles Krantz (played in part by Hiddleston), whose death coincides with the end of the world, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

"I've never danced quite like this before, and I had some steps to dance, some miles to go before I felt skilled enough and practised enough to pull off some of the techniques and styles that Chuck pulls off," said Hiddleston at the film's Los Angeles premiere. "I have a great affection for movie musicals, I was thinking about them a lot in making this, thinking about Swing Time and Singin' in the Rain and Cover Girl."

He continued, "I've always loved dance in movies and it's not actually just those, if you think about Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey in Dirty Dancing or Jim Carrey and Cameron Diaz in The Mask or Joseph Gordon-Levitt in 500 Days of Summer or Little Miss Sunshine, dance is a part of the DNA of movies." And as for if he'd ever star in a musical himself, Hiddleston said, "No one's knocking on the door yet but I'm always open."

–ANI

How Shilpa Shetty is reliving her 'Dhadkan' memories in London

Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty recently took a trip down memory lane as she stumbled upon a heartwarming moment on the streets of London.

The 'Hungama 2' actress posted a video capturing a street performer playing the soulful tune of her iconic track 'Dil Ne Yeh Kaha Hain Dil Se' from her blockbuster movie "Dhadkan." Clearly moved, Shilpa recorded the scene while panning the camera to show the performer and the bustling surroundings — reliving the magic of one of her most memorable film moments.

Shilpa also turned the camera toward herself, smiling and swaying gently to the melody, visibly enjoying the tune that once defined a major chapter of her film career.

Sharing the clip on her Instagram stories, she wrote, "Surprises #Londondiaries."

"Dhadkan," released in 2000, was directed by Dharmesh Darshan and produced by Ratan Jain. The romantic musical drama also featured Suniel Shetty, Akshay Kumar, and Mahima Chaudhry in leading roles. Seasoned actors like Sharmila Tagore, Anupam Kher, Parmeet Sethi, Kiran Kumar, Sushma Seth, and Manjeet Kullar appeared in supporting roles."Dhadkan" remains one of Shilpa Shetty's most beloved and iconic films.

Her portrayal of Anjali, caught in a whirlwind of love, duty, and sacrifice, earned her immense praise and continues to be remembered by audiences as one of her most emotionally resonant performances. The film not only solidified her place in Bollywood's mainstream cinema but also gave her some of the most memorable moments of her career.

–IANS

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Devasasya in 5 languages

The teaser of multilingual movie Devasasya was unveiled by actor-cum-writer Naveen Krishna at a function held at MMB Legacy on Monday. Devasasya is about a rare plant and the incidents in a forest. Most of the cast and crew of the movie are from North Karnataka. The movie is being made in Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and Hindi.

Ananthkumar Hegde is bankrolling the movie under the Ananta Films banner. Karthik Bhat is the director.

Bhat said he was a private company employee before this. "I have also worked as a writer for a few tele serials and Kannada movies. Devasasya is about a Siddi community that lives in a forest near Sirsi. The producer evinced a keen interest to bankroll this movie when I narrated the script to him. I have worked for two years on the script. I thank the producer for his support," said Bhat.

The director said the movie is set in 1995. "We could not find a location suitable to the script. So, we put up a set for this movie. Karan has worked as art director for this movie shot in 45 days," the director said. Selvin plays the lead. "I used to work as a tractor driver before I got this role," said Selvin.

105th movie

Director Om Saiprakash is happy about the cooperation he received for his 105th movie September 10 from former Attiguppe ward corporator Dr S Raju. The movie conveys a message that suicide is not the solution to any problem. The movie is bankrolled by Rajamma Saiprakash under the Sridevi Pictures banner. Raju unveiled a behind-the-scenes video at MMB Legacy on Monday.

On the occasion, Saiprakash said it has become tough to bankroll Kannada movies. "I started the movie in 2020. Later, I had to struggle due to the lockdown. I could not release the movie all these years since I was not sure about audiences watching it at theatres. Now, I am not sure if it will be received well by the audiences," said Saiprakash.

He said that he came into contact with Raju through Dombara Krishna Suresh. "Dr Raju agreed to support me to release September 10 when I narrated the script to him," the director said.